

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 AID-05

EB-08 TRSE-00 DOE-11 SOE-02 ACDA-12 /151 W

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 1055

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, CG

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: ZAIRE VIEWS THE 32ND UNGA

REF: A) STATE 16347; B) STATE 14739

1. SUMMARY: ZITU DI NENKOLI, RESPONSIBLE FOR UN AFFAIRS AT THE ZAIRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY, DESCRIBED THE 32ND UNGA SESSION AS GENERALLY DISAPPOINTING. SPEAKING TO EMBOFF JANUARY 23, AFTER PARTICIPATING IN THE ENTIRE SESSION, HE WAS PARTICULARLY DISCOURAGED OVER ALLEGED LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE. END SUMMARY.

2. ZITU DESCRIBED THE DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, AS "OVERLY THEORETICAL". IN UTTERING THIS CONDEMNATION, HE MADE AN EXCEPTION FOR THE US, WHICH, HE SAID, HAD MADE CONCRETE PROPOSALS. THE FRENCH AND THE BELGIANS, ON THE OTHER HAND, HE SAID PREFERRED TO PHILOSOPHIZE RATHER THAN GET DOWN TO HARD PRACTICAL ISSUES.

3. ZITU APPEARED CONVINCED THAT WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD NOT, AND PROBABLY COULD NOT, INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF AID WHICH THEY GIVE TO THE THIRD WORLD. THE ZAIRIAN OFFICIAL
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LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS UP TO THE US TO DO SO. EMB OFF SAID HE DID NOT AGREE THAT WESTERN EUROPEAN NATIONS COULD NOT INCREASE THEIR AID FLOW AND FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT THE OIL RICH POWERS, AS WELL AS JAPAN, COULD ALSO DO MORE. ZITU DID NOT RESPOND.

4. ZITU WAS SIMILARLY PESSIMISTIC CONCERNING PROGRESS

ON POLITICAL ISSUES OF MAJOR CONCERN TO ZAIRE; I.E., ZIMBWABE, NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA. HE DID, HOWEVER, ADD THAT THE VOTING OF AN ARMS SANCTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA REPRESENTED A MAJOR INNOVATION EVEN THOUGH SANCTIONS SHOULD NOT, IN HIS VIEW, HAVE BEEN LIMITED TO WEAPONS. EMBOFF NOTED RECENT PROGRESS IN DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER SMITH AND THE RHODESIAN NATIONALISTS IN ORDER TO SUGGEST THAT THERE MAY HAVE BEEN MORE PROGRESS ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES THAN MIGHT BE READILY APPARENT.

5. COMMENT: EMBOFF WAS STRUCK BY ZITU'S NEGATIVE REACTION TO THE 32ND UNGA SESSION. IN THE AFRICAN CONTEXT, ZAIRE AND ITS MOST IMPORTANT KINSHASA-BASED OFFICIAL CHARGED WITH UN MATTERS ARE CONSIDERED MODERATES. IN ANY EVENT, ZITU'S COMMENTS SEEM TO SUGGEST THAT OUR FAVORABLE ASSESSMENT OF THE OUTCOME OF THE 32ND UNGA (REFTELS) IS NOT UNIFORMLY, SHARED BY OUR AFRICAN FRIENDS.
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